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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takayuki ARAKI, et al.

PCT/JP99/04472, filed August 20, 1999

Appln. No.: Unassigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: February 22, 2001

For: THIN COATING FILM COMPRISING FLUORINE-CONTAINING POLYMER
AND METHOD OF FORMING SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

4. (Amended) The thin coating film of Claim 1, wherein the crystalline melting point of the fluorine-containing polymer in the coating film is not less than 300°C.
5. (Amended) The thin coating film of Claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic functional group is at least one of hydroxyl, carboxyl, salt of carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid group or salt of sulfonic acid.
6. (Amended) The thin coating film of Claim 1, wherein the fluorine-containing polymer having a hydrophilic functional group is a fluorine-containing polymer prepared by copolymerizing (a) 0.05 to 50% by mole of at least one of ethylenic monomers having any